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BVAC News October 2025

Annual General Meeting

By now you should have had an email confirming that the date given in last month's BVAC News for the AGM was an error. The club's AGM is on **Wednesday 8th October at 7.30pm** in Earlston Church Hall, High Street, Earlston, TD4 6HG. Come along and have your say on the running of the club. You should all also have received a letter from the committee concerning the club's future, but apparently some members have had difficulty opening the document, so it is reproduced below. There is also a questionnaire about the running of the club and it would help tremendously if you would take time to complete it and return it to Philip Weiss at kinderscoutpgw@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible. The following links will enable you to download the questionnaire in either PDF or Word format.

Message from the BVAC Committee:

We have a great club of around 250 members and as a club we organise the BVAC Extravaganza at Thirlestane Castle which has become one of the biggest car shows in Scotland. All of this relies on the work of the Club Committee who are members themselves and volunteer their time, but it has now reached a point where several of the committee are retiring and the demand of organising the show is becoming all consuming – we are in some ways a victim of our own success.

There is a grave concern that due to a shortage of volunteers coming forward to become a committee member or co-opting themselves for certain roles to help in the organisation and planning of the Car Show, the club has a challenging future that may result in the cancellation of the 2026 Thirlestane Show.

As a club we therefore need to address whether Thirlestane continues to dominate the club calendar, the continuous future planning required including committee succession, improving and streamlining financial procedures, what our actual members want the club to be and how that shapes the work of the club and the committee,

The club needs at least the following responsibilities covered by committee members from the AGM on 8th October.

A bookkeeper/treasurer familiar with membership led income, current accounting systems, online banking and working with accountants to maintain all VAT and LLC reporting requirements.

Marketing manager responsible for printed, online and social media marketing – which may involve a small working group of members who have specific skills in any of these areas to be able to research, write create and use all types of media in communicating with the members and promoting the club and its activities.

Events management team – this will be both for Thirlestane if we continue the event, which will involve a team that organises all aspects of the show and liaises and works with the castle in holding a successful event. Secondly there will be a requirement for a club activity focused team that take responsibility for other events being attended, arranging drive-out runs, social gatherings etc.

Please support your club, come to the AGM at Earlston Church Hall on 8th October and if you can and are willing to commit some time then volunteer for the committee. Without you, the members, getting involved the club will face a difficult future.

Club Christmas Dinner

It's the time of year to plan for the club's Christmas Dinner. Once again, organisation is in the capable hands of Helen Grimes, the venue is the Kingsknowes Hotel in Galashiels (TD1 3HY) and the date is Saturday December 6th at 7pm, for 7.30. At the end of this edition of BVAC News you'll find the letter from Helen, so you can print or copy that page to return to her with your booking and menu choices.



Festive menu

Starters

Curried parsnip soup, coriander crème fraîche (*AG, *VG)

Crayfish & prawn cocktail, avocado purée, citrus dressing (*AG)

Chicken liver parfait, red onion & grenadine jam & oatcakes (*AG)

Roasted tomato, basil & Parmesan tart, balsamic glaze (*VG)

Mains

Roast turkey, apricot & sage stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, vegetables & turkey gravy (*AG)

Pan-seared sea trout, seafood & spinach chowder & crispy leeks (AG)

Pork belly stuffed with Stornoway black pudding, crème savoy cabbage, chive mash, calvados jus

Vegan Christmas & cranberry pie with all the trimmings (*AG, VG)

Desserts

Christmas pudding, brandy sauce & redcurrants (*AG, *VG)

Dark Chocolate Mousse, Cinnamon Winter Berry Compote, Orange Sorbet

Glazed lemon tart with raspberry purée, vanilla & lime Chantilly cream (*AG, *VG)

Scottish cheese board with apple chutney, grapes & biscuits (*AG)

AG = ALTERNATIVE TO GLUTEN, VG = VEGAN, * = CAN BE ADAPTED

 Contact – Editor: David Hunter editor@bvac.org.uk; Secretary: Kenny Wilson 01896 849597

September Shows

Bo'Ness Hill Climb

Report to follow next month, hopefully.

Carhailes

The club had a well-attended stand at 'Carhailes', held in the grounds of the National Trust for Scotland's Newhailes House in Musselburgh last month. It was good to be back as this show didn't happen last year, and although we didn't have the prime position in front of the house this year, we attracted a lot of interest in the cars. Albert Houston deserves a mention for winning the 'Shiniest Car' prize for his amazing Buick.





Milestone

Our regular monthly breakfast meetings continue to be well supported, even when they clash with other events as they did with Carhailes. The October meeting is on the 12th. Come along and join us from 10am at the Milestone Garden Centre, Newtown St Boswells. **The centre management have asked us to park as many cars as possible is the concrete loading bay area before occupying the main car park spaces.**

Last Show of the Season

The final classic car show of the 2025 season (hasn't it flown!) will be at Brunton in Northumberland on 19th October. Entries have now closed but why not come along as a spectator? This show, run by the Northumberland Vintage Tractor Club, always attracts a good number of agricultural and commercial vehicles to mix with the cars. It has a certain reputation for poor weather as it's both late in the year and held on an exposed site on a disused airfield, so wrap up well!



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Car for Sale

LGN 788D. 1964 Morris Minor 1098cc 2 door saloon. I have heard the colour described as Rose Taupe, others say brown/grey. Converted to run on lead-free petrol, front and rear seat belts fitted, MOT until August 2026.

Two previous owners, bought from a Ford dealer near Woolwich Ferry by current owner in 1984 as a student run-around. Stated mileage on purchase 85,617, but with pencil note that this could not be guaranteed. Clock currently reads 01233.1.

Regularly maintained, currently by garage in Town Yetholm. Kept in garage and used fairly regularly for trips to tip, approx. 20 mile round trip once a fortnight

A good refurbishment project.

£3,000 ono

Contact A Cowper-Coles, 01573 420249 and leave message.











Clubman Magazines Wanted from Gordon Mellis

Not exactly a vintage motoring request – and definitely a shot in the dark, but the British Karting Heritage Project www.britishkartingheritage.com based in the Borders is eager to acquire any copies of Scotland's once popular motoring, motorcycling, and motorsports magazine, the Scottish Clubman magazine [latterly renamed Motorscot] that was published between 1949 and 1980.



If there are any BVAC members who have editions of this magazine languishing in their loft, garage, workshop or a cupboard, would they please make

contact with Gordon Mellis by mobile, WhatsApp, iMessage, email or via Facebook. Mobile: 07 401 401 911 – Email: gordon@motorscot.com Thank you.

Xclusively Jaguar Magazine October 2025 from Letitia Mace

Welcome to the October 2025 issue of Xclusively Jaguar Magazine!

Rob Jenner and I were married on 30th August, as planned. The sun shone and we had a glorious day. A report is in this issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine.
Meanwhile, Ronald Ferguson, sponsored by Xclusively Jaguar, sadly popped his engine while competing at Brands Hatch – a new one is under construction and will hopefully be ready for Thruxton!
An announcement was made from the commentary box at Brands Hatch to say that Rob and I were married on the day of the race. Many of those competing were close friends, some of whom had made their apologies for not attending our wedding as racing was more important!
On the other side of the coin, some of our wedding guests had turned down invitations to displays their cars at Salon Privé, which Ian Evans of XJS club stated "has put the importance of this event into perspective"
*****



This issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine, and the next, will be devoted entirely to a feature by Martin Joyce on Jaguar Prototypes and MP19, ahead of its appearance at the NEC.
*****

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2025!
Sunday 19th October 2025
JAGUAR SPARES DAY AT STONELEIGH
For more information visit Jaguar Spares Day
*****

SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026!
Saturday 11th July and Sunday 12th July 2026
The Jaguar Drivers Club 70th anniversary celebrations at Brooklands Museum in Surrey have the advantage of following on directly from Goodwood Festival of Speed on Thursday 9th July and Friday 10th July, making it possible for members to take a break and enjoy the two events back to back!
For more information visit Jaguar Drivers Club
*****

Amongst all of this there should be some good reading!
You will find the latest issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine (along with all back issues) at https://www.xclusivelyjaguar.org/
Contact Letitia Mace via 07836 68 78 98 or Letitia@xclusivelyjaguar.org for more information or if you have any problems accessing the new website
Until next month, Happy Motoring!

Miscellany…

Thanks to Fred Magill for this selection of old car adverts.







That's all for this month - clear roads,
David
editor@bvac.org.uk





 Contact – Editor: David Hunter editor@bvac.org.uk; Secretary: Kenny Wilson 01896 849597

Christmas Dinner Letter from Helen Grimes

Dear Member(s)

Please see above the menu for Christmas Dinner, which is being held on Saturday, 6th December 2025 at The Kingsknowes Hotel, Selkirk Road, Galashiels, TD1 3HY - 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

The cost is £36 per person for three courses, or £30 for 2 courses

This event is being arranged by Helen Grimes, 29 Tweedbank Ley, Innerleithen, EH44 6PE. Menu to be returned to Helen, NO LATER THAN 27TH NOVEMBER 2025 (hl.grimes@btinternet.com)

Name(s)----------Numbers Attending----------

Choice/Names

Starter

Soup ----------

Prawn Cocktail ----------

Parfait ----------

Tart ----------

Mains

Turkey ----------

Sea Trout ----------

Pork Belly ----------

Vegan Pie ----------

Sweets

Xmas Pudding ----------

Choc Mousse ----------

Lemon Tart ----------

Cheeseboard ----------

Tea or Coffee and Mince pies

I/We enclose a cheque value----------made payable to B.V.A.C.

Or alternatively by BACS to Bank of Scotland Account No 27780368, Sort Code 80-22-60 (Quote Xmas and Surname)

If paying by BACS this MUST be in our bank when submitting your menu choice